

HEALTH

A 24 OCT 1944

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Year ending December 1943  
Public Health Statistics

## Section A.

## General Description of the Area.

Area 71,319 acres.

Population 11,200

Rateable value £44,718

Inhabited houses 3,811

New houses (1943) 111

## REPORT

Vital Statistics of the



Births (Live)

Total

Birth rate per 1,000  
of estimated resident  
population

Legitimate

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Illegitimate

Births (Stillborn)

for the

Rate per 1,000 live  
and still births

Legitimate

Illegitimate

## RURAL DISTRICT

Deaths

Deaths

of

Death rate per 1,000  
resident population

Deaths from puerperal causes

Puerperal Deaths

Other Deaths

MERE and TISBURY

Deaths per 1,000 births

Infantile Mortality

for the year ending December

1943.

Infantile Mortality Rates:-

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate " births

N.B. There were no deaths from infantile diarrhoea.

## Sanitary and Health Officials:

Medical Officer of Health . . . G. Napier,

B.Sc.(Hons) M.B. Ch.B.

D.P.H.(RCP&amp;S) C.T.M.H.

Total 148

Heart Disease

Intra-aortic Vascular Lesions

"Glenorchy", Shaftesbury Road,  
Wilton, Salisbury.

Influenza

Pneumonia

Tuberculosis

## Sanitary Inspectors:

T. A. Brown, A.R.S.I. C.M.&F.I.  
(On active service since 1939)

A.D.G. Goold, M.I.M.&amp;Cy.E.:M.S.I.A.

Council Offices, Mere, Wilts.

Phone . . . . . Mere 341.

Hindon 247.

N.B. There were no deaths from the notifiable infectious diseases other than the above.

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Medical Officer of Health's Report.

for the year ending December 1943  
on Public Health Matters.

Section A.

General Description of the Area.

Area 71,319 acres.

Population 11,400

Rateable Value £44,718

Inhabited Houses 3,310

New Houses(1943) Nil.

Vital Statistics to December 1943.

Births (Live)	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population
Legitimate	181	104	77	17.3
Illegitimate	17	7	10	
Births (Still)	2	0	2	Rate per 1,000 live and still births
Legitimate	1	0	1	
Illegitimate	1	0	1	10.

Deaths	Total	M.	F.	Death rate per 1,000 resident population
Diphtheria	148	73	75	12.6
Deaths from puerperal causes	0	0	0	
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0	0	Rates per 1,000 births
Other Maternal Causes	0	0	0	

Infantile Mortality. (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	5	4	1
Illegitimate	3	2	1

Infantile Mortality Rates:-

All infants per 1,000 live births:  
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births: 25  
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate " births: 118

N.B. There were no deaths from infantile diarrhoea.

Analysis of Chief Causes of Death.

	Total
Heart Disease	48
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	13
Cancer	19
Influenza	12
Pneumonia	6
Tuberculosis	2

N.B. There were no deaths from the notifiable infectious diseases other than the above.

Diphtheria	3
Kryosipias	2
Small-pox	Nil.
Measles	83
Pneumonia	14
Puerperal Pyrexia	1



for the year ending December 1943  
on Public Health Matters.

Section A.

General Description of the Area.

Area	71,319 acres.
Population	11,400
Responsible Value	244,718
Inhabited Houses	3,310
New Houses (1943)	Nil.

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Legitimate	181	104	77	17.3
Illegitimate	17	7	10	10.0
Deaths (Still)	Total	M.	F.	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population
Legitimate	1	0	1	0.0
Illegitimate	1	0	1	0.0
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	148	73	75	12.6
Puerperal Sepsis	0			
Other Maternal Causes	0			
Rates per 1,000 Births				0.0

Infantile Mortality.

(Deaths of Infants under 1 year)	Total	M.	F.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births
Legitimate	5	4	1	0.4
Illegitimate	3	2	1	0.3
Total	8	6	2	0.7

Infantile Mortality Rates:-

All infants per 1,000 live births:  
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births: 0.4  
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births: 0.3

N.B. There were no deaths from infantile diarrhoea.

Analysis of Chief Causes of Death.

Total	148
Heart Disease	48
Intestines, Vascular Lesions	13
Cancer	19
Influenza	13
Pneumonia	6
Tuberculosis	2

N.B. There were no deaths from the notifiable infectious diseases other than the above.



## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases:

The number of cases of notifiable diseases has again been small. There have been no outbreaks of epidemic size and no deaths from infectious disease apart from those due to influenza and tuberculosis. In a district where the great majority of the houses are rural farm workers' cottages, with limited facilities for any attempt at home isolation or proper home nursing, it is found best here, still to send the majority of cases of Scarlet Fever to hospital, though most of the cases have this year again been of a mild nature. Hospital treatment is also more necessary in this district as many of the homes have one or more members engaged in milk production. The policy then of prompt removal coupled with the closure of small rural school when necessary, would appear to be the quickest way of checking the spread of these diseases here.

Scarlet Fever: The number of cases this year was twenty-one, compared with fourteen last year. This is about the usual number and is satisfactory remembering the presence of evacuees increasing the child population, and the movements of military etc. in the district.

Measles: Eighty-three cases were notified. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria: Only three cases of Diphtheria occurred and these were in adults who had not been immunised. Immunisation is carried out in the district by a member of the County Council staff. The response has been entirely satisfactory, and though it is many years since an epidemic has occurred in this area and proof is difficult to obtain, therefore, of its practical utility here yet, there is no doubt that in later years when more statistics are available it will prove to have been an extremely satisfactory measure.

Influenza: During the year there were in all, in spite of the national epidemic of influenza, only twelve deaths ascribed to this disease in the Mere and Tisbury area. Special measures were available to practitioners etc. if required, i.e. assistance from Red Cross and St John workers.

Tuberculosis: The number of cases who died of this disease shows a satisfactory drop. Last year eleven cases died. This year only two deaths were recorded for the whole district, one pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.

General Health: Apart from colds, influenza and minor localised outbreaks of sore throats, the general health of the population has stood up to the strain of the war years very well.

- - - - -

The following table gives particulars of cases notified:

Typhoid Fever	Nil.
Paratyphoid Fever	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	21.
Whooping Cough	29.
Diphtheria	3.
Erysipelas	5.
Small-pox	Nil.
Measles	83.
Pneumonia	14.
Puerperal Pyrexia	1.

2. House Drainage: - - - - - was installed during the year, a considerable decrease in the number installed in recent years. No cesspits were constructed. It was necessary to draw the attention of a considerable number of households to the condition of their drains and to the necessity of having them cleaned.



## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases:

The number of cases of notifiable diseases has again been small. There have been no outbreaks of epidemic also and no deaths from infectious diseases apart from those due to influenza and tuberculosis. In a district where the great majority of the houses are rural farm workers' cottages, with limited facilities for any attempt at home isolation or proper home nursing, it is found that here, still to add the majority of cases of scarlet fever to hospital, though most of the cases have this year again been of a mild nature. Hospital treatment is also unnecessary in this district as many of the houses have one or more members engaged in milk production. The policy then of prompt removal coupled with the closure of small rural school when necessary, would appear to be the quickest way of checking the spread of these diseases here.

**Scarlet Fever:** The number of cases this year was twenty-one, compared with fourteen last year. This is about the usual number and is satisfactory remembering the presence of measles increasing the child population, and the movements of military etc. in the district.

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The following table gives particulars of cases notified:

111.	Typhoid Fever
111.	Paratyphoid Fever
21.	Scarlet Fever
29.	Whooping Cough
3.	Diphtheria
7.	Erysipelas
111.	Small-pox
63.	Measles
14.	Pneumonia
1.	Peripneumonia

- - - - -



### Public Health Staff:

The Medical Officer spends his whole time in Public Health work, being Medical Officer for the neighbouring Borough of Wilton and for the Salisbury and Wilton Rural Area. His qualifications are, Bachelor of Science (Hons), Bachelor of Medicine, and Surgery, Diploma of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Public Health, Certificate of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London.

Sanitary Inspectors: T.A. Brown (on Active Service)  
A.D.G. Goold.

There are no technical or clerical assistants in the Public Health Department. The present Inspector acts as Surveyor, Sewage Works Manager and Petroleum Officer. The duties of Salvage Officer and certain Civil Defence duties also fall on him.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area:

#### 1. Main Drainage

A brief description of the main drainage in the Parishes of Mere, Tisbury, and Hindon was given in the 1941 Report, and is still correct at the present time. At Mere the purification plant is still overloaded, mainly due to surface and sub-soil water, many times the normal flow of sewage proper. This question was examined in June 1941, was re-opened in connection with an application to discharge water borne sewage at a probable rate of 30,000 gallons per day into the sewers. Trial holes were opened on the sewer in Water Street to locate the source of sub-soil leakage and the data obtained were reported to the Council in November 1943. The question of repairing or re-laying the Water Street sewer is now under consideration.

At Hindon the tanks and ditches were neglected for a few months owing to acute labour shortage but this system is now receiving regular attention. Following a complaint that road surface water was flooding the school playground the Wilts County Council dug out the old ditch which takes most of the surface water from Hindon High Street. This ditch by-passes the sewage tanks and flushes out the effluent ditch. This has increased the dilution of the effluent which, however, remains very unsatisfactory. There were no structural alterations at Mere, Tisbury or Hindon in 1943.

2. House Drainage: One septic tank was installed during the year, a considerable decrease in the number installed in recent years. No cesspools were constructed. It was necessary to draw the attention of a considerable number of householders to the condition of their overflowing tanks & cesspools.



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A.D.C. Grade.

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Sanitary Department of the Area:

A. Main Drainage

A brief description of the main drainage in the parishes of Marn, Tisbury, and Hinton was given in the 1941 report, and is still correct at the present time. At Marn the purification plant is still overloaded, mainly due to surface and sub-soil water. Many times the normal flow of sewage proper. This question was examined in June 1941, was re-opened in connection with an application to discharge water borne sewage at a probable rate of 30,000 gallons per day into the sewer. Trial holes were opened on the sewer in water street to locate the source of sub-soil leakage and the data obtained were reported to the Council in November 1943. The question of repairing or re-laying the water street sewer is now under consideration.

At Hinton the tanks and dishes were neglected for a few months owing to acute labour shortage but this system is now receiving regular attention. Following a complaint that road surface water was flooding the school playground the Wiltshire County Council dug out the old ditch which takes most of the surface water from Hinton High Street. This ditch by-passes the sewage tanks and flushes out the effluent ditch. This has increased the dilution of the effluent which, however, remains very unsatisfactory. There were no structural alterations at Marn, Tisbury or Hinton in 1943.

B. House Drainage: One septic tank was installed during the year, a considerable decrease in the number installed in recent years. No cesspools were connected. It was necessary to draw the attention of a considerable number of householders to the condition of their existing tanks & cesspools.



### 1.1.1 Public Cleansing.

#### 1(a) Scavenging

A quarterly collection of refuse was made at Tisbury and half yearly collections at Hindon, Maiden Bradley and Mere Semley. There was one collection only at East Knoyle and Mere. The collection at Mere is normally a quarterly one, but the previous contractor (who also controls the tipping place) failed to tender and no other tenders were received. The position is therefore now that the refuse disposal service has ceased to exist. There were no collections in twenty parishes. The condition of the Tisbury place has been considerably improved, by tightened supervision and by attention on one day a week by a labourer. All the tips were baited for rats. The number and condition of other tips is substantially as previously reported.

#### (B) Salvage.

The separate salvage of metal paper and rags as of bones has been continued. the bulk of the work was carried out by the W.V.S. but owing to various changes in marketing arrangements it has been necessary to employ two men part time in baling paper and tins.

The council purchased in 1943 a Heenan and Froude standard scrap-metal baling machine. This machine is now in full use and it is anticipated that some years accumulation of tins will be reduced to useful iron during the coming year.

The amounts collected were:-

Mixed Paper	91 tons
Scrap Metal	36 tons
Bones	8½ tons
Rags	3 tons
Rubber	7 tons.

The scrap metal includes 96 tons of railings.

The rubber does not include a special drive for the Ministry of Works which yielded about 8 tons.

The yield of bones is well above the average for the country: paper is average for Rural Districts and slightly below the National standard; metal yields are bound to fall owing to the fact that little more than tins and household scrap is available. These figures do not include salvage privately sold or collected by voluntary bodies.

#### 2. Verminous Premises and Persons.

One house was cleansed under this section.

No premises were found infested by bed-bugs.

#### 3. Rat and Mice Destruction.

Work under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act continued. The Councils refuse tips were baited as required. Contact has been made with the County Pests Officer and Ministry of Food. The Infestation Order 1943 has been discussed but so far it has been found difficult to appoint a rodent officer.

#### 4. Smoke Abatement.

One case occurred in Tisbury this was found to be due at least in the greater part to the supply of coal being of an inferior quality. There were no smoke nuisances requiring statutory action.

#### 5. Water Supplies.

Periodical samples were taken of all the public supplies during the year by the Water Works Manager. The Analyses of none of these gave cause at any time for anxiety. They were in fact mostly excellent results. The Mere and Tisbury supplies are chlorinated. There have been no major structural changes or changes of source of supply since recent reports. The Council weighing schemes for post-war development

20. No. of notices served  
21. No. of notices served  
22. No. of notices served



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(6) Meat and other foods.

Centralised slaughtering for the Ministry of Food was transferred from Tisbury to Salisbury and Sherborne during 1942 thus carcasses coming into the district from these centres have already been the subject of inspection.

The total number of Casualty Carcasses inspected was seven of sheep and five of these were condemned. The weight was 203 lbs.

No butchers meat was condemned on account of tuberculosis and therefore this table has been omitted.

The following other items were also condemned as unfit:-

Bacon 45 lbs.

Ham 19 lbs.

Canned Foods.

Sausage Meat 63 lbs

Pilchard

Herrings

Sardines 26 lbs

Port

Ham 101 lbs

Beef 62 lbs

Salmon 23 lbs

Milk 36 lbs

Tomatoes 25 lbs

Peas and Beans 46 lbs.

Plum 23 lbs

Beetroot 88 lbs

Soups etc 18 lbs.

Miscellaneous Foods.

Potatoes 30 cwt

Oatmeal 56 lbs

Cocoa 14 lbs

Dried Fruit 25 lbs

Liquid Milk 80 gallons.

All the foregoing were voluntarily surrendered at the time of inspection.

(7) Milk.

1. Total No. of dairyman registered	335
2. No. of retailers	73
3. No. of Separate Farms or Dairies.	346
4. No of New Dairies added in 1943	Nil.
5. No. of reconstructions in 1943	8
6. No. of names removed or suspended.	Nil.
7. No of lapsed registrations (change)	25
8. No of new registrations	15
9. No of Verbal Requests Made	58
10 No of Notices complied with	50
11 No of Written notices served	15
12 No of Written Notices complied with.	15
13 No of outstanding notices	Nil.
14 No of Inspections made	358.

Special Designations Order 1935.

No of Licences in Force:	Tuberculin Tested	5.
	Accredited	81.
	Pasteurised	1.
	Total	87.

15. No. of visits to farms	280
16. No. of samples taken	219
17. No. which satisfied the Methylene Blue Test and contained no B. Coll in 1/100th c.c.	123
18. No. which failed the test	70
19. No. damaged or delayed in transit	26
20. No of verbal notices given and complied with.	62.
21. No. of written notices served	29.
22. No. of outstanding notices	Nil.







### Pasteurised Milk.

one factory only is licenced. During the Year a H.T.S.T. apparatus was installed to replace a Holder apparatus. The new machine was tested but not put into use.

### National Milk Testing Scheme.

The scheme was introduced during the year by the Ministry of Agriculture and at the outset the cooperation of local sanitary inspectors was sought. This was freely given and as reports came in from the laboratories through the W.A.E.C. prompt visits were paid to the defaulters. This entailed much extra work at first as it was necessary to explain to each producer the implications of the new scheme and its relation to other forms of milk control.

When this ground work had been covered and a definite improvement obtained in the average standard of milk, the W.A.E.C. appointed additional staff and carried on the scheme themselves. one hundred and five visits were paid for advisory purposes.

### VIII. Slaughter of Animals.

No of slaughtermens licences renewed

No of new licences

Nil

### IX. Housing.

No routine inspection has been made. However more housing has been possible than in the previous year though it has been restricted to the bare essentials.

Total number of houses inspected under Housing etc. Acts	63
No of inspections made	78
No of defective houses	21
No of informal notices served	21
No of statutory notices served	Nil.
No of outstanding notices	Nil.
No of overcrowding cases dealt with	2.
No of overcrowding cases remedied	2.

### X. Factory Acts

No of Factories on Register at the end of 1943

49.

No of inspections made

Factories with power 14.

Factories without power 11.

It was necessary (not) to serve Statutory notices or to take legal proceedings.

No of outworkers (glovemaking) 3

Unsatisfactory premises 0

### XI. Summary of all inspections.

Nature of Inspection.	Number Made.
Complaints (Public Health)	21
Water Supply	36
Food Premises (Slaughterhouses, Bakehouses etc)	101
Farms and Dairies	440
Infectious Diseases	16
Rats and Mice Destruction	12
Factories (including outworkers)	28
Housing (including overcrowding)	82
Nuisances	77
Verminous premises	5
Drain tests	5
Building Byelaws	10
Sanitary Conveniences	31
Schools	8
Shops Act (1934-Sec 10)	3
Council House Repairs	148
Miscellaneous	99.

Total -

1,122.



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VIII Slaughter of Animals.

No of slaughtermen licences renewed  
No of new licences

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No routine inspection has been made. However more housing has been possible than in the previous year though it has been restricted to the bare essentials.

Total number of houses inspected under Housing etc. Acts 63  
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X. Factories.

No of factories on Register at the end of 1943 40  
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Factories without power 3  
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Unsatisfactory premises 0  
Summary of all inspections.

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28	Factories (including outworkers)
82	Housing (including overcrowding)
77	Miscellaneous
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